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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Gecht et al.

Application No.: 09/688,457

Filed: October 16, 2000

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE PROVISION OF PRINTING SERVICES

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 9, 2004.

By: Carol Prentice  
Carol Prentice

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

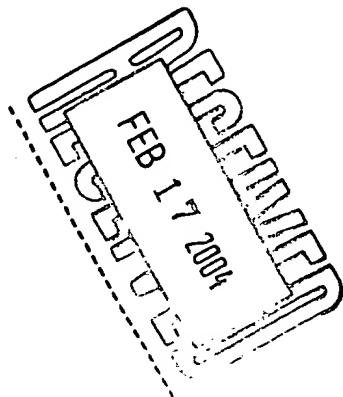
Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following reference:

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT(S):

| <u>Country</u> | <u>No.</u>  | <u>Date of Publication</u> |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Japan          | 2000-155733 | Jun 06, 2000               |

A copy of the above-listed reference is enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449. An English language abstract is attached to the reference.



To date, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore believed to be timely filed.

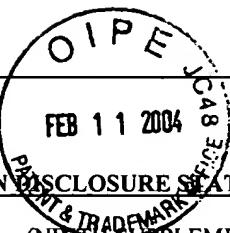
Consideration of this reference by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Date: February 9, 2004**  
**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: MGI-176**



SHEET 1 OF 1